

Talking Points for Meteorologists

Section I - Ozone

Ozone Yellow

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is moderate (yellow).

Primary Pollutant: Ozone

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is a concern for people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

If you are unusually sensitive to air pollution:

- Try to plan your strenuous outside activities when air quality is better.

- You might want to go for a walk instead of a jog.

- Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

[Other Web sites are to the State/local agency or EPA's site at

www.epa.gov/airnow.]



Ozone Orange

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is unhealthy for sensitive groups (code orange).

Primary Pollutant: Ozone

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is unhealthy for people in sensitive groups.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

If you are in a sensitive group, including people with lung disease (such as asthma), active adults and children:

You might want to go for a walk instead of a jog.

Try to cut back your strenuous outside activities or reschedule them when air quality is better.

Coaches, it's a good idea to rotate your players, especially if any have asthma.

Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

You may want to reschedule strenuous activities to avoid ozone during the afternoon and early evening hours.

If you work outside, try to plan strenuous activities for the morning.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

[Other Web sites are to the State/local agency or EPA's site at

www.epa.gov/airnow.]



Ozone Red

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is unhealthy for everyone (code red).

Primary Pollutant: Ozone

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is unhealthy for everyone.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

Everyone:

- Try to cut back your strenuous outside activities or reschedule them when air quality is better.

- You might want to go for a walk instead of a jog.

- Coaches, it's a good idea to rotate your players.

- Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing, chest discomfort, wheezing or breathing difficulty.

If you are in a sensitive group, including people with lung disease (such as asthma), active adults and children:

- You should plan your strenuous outside activities for another day when air quality is better.

- You should avoid strenuous outside activities today.

- Avoid strenuous work or exercise outside during afternoon or early evening hours.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

[Other Web sites are to the State/local agency or EPA's site at

www.epa.gov/airnow.]



Ozone Purple

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is very unhealthy for everyone (code purple). Ozone is at very unhealthy levels.

Primary Pollutant: Ozone

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is very unhealthy for everyone.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

Everyone:

You should significantly cut back on outside physical activities during the afternoon and early evening hours today.

Coaches, you should reschedule your game when air quality is better.

Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing, chest discomfort, wheezing or breathing difficulty.

If you are in a sensitive group, including people with lung disease (such as asthma), active adults and children:

You should avoid all outside physical activities today and plan them for another day when air quality is better.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

[Other Web sites are to the State/local agency or EPA's site at

www.epa.gov/airnow.]



Section II – Particle Pollution

Particles Yellow

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is moderate (code yellow).

Primary Pollutant: Particles

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is a concern for people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

If you are unusually sensitive to air pollution:

- Try to plan your strenuous activities when air quality is better.

- You might want to go for a walk instead of a jog.

- Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

[Other Web sites are to the State/local agency or EPA's site at

www.epa.gov/airnow.]



Particles Orange

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is unhealthy for sensitive groups (code orange).

Primary Pollutant: Particles

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is unhealthy for people in sensitive groups.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

If you are in a sensitive group, including people with heart or lung disease (such as asthma), older adults, and children:

- You might want to go for a walk instead of a jog.

- Try to cut back your strenuous activities or reschedule them when air quality is better.

- Coaches, it's a good idea to rotate your players, especially if any have asthma.

- Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

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Particles Red

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is unhealthy for everyone (code red).

Primary Pollutant: Particles

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is unhealthy for everyone.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

Everyone:

- Try to cut back your strenuous activities or reschedule them when air quality is better.

- You might want to go for a walk instead of a jog.

- Coaches, it's a good idea to rotate your players.

- Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

If you are in a sensitive group, including people with heart or lung disease (such as asthma), older adults, and children:

- You should plan your strenuous activities for another day when air quality is better.

- You should avoid strenuous activities today.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

[Other Web sites are to the State/local agency or EPA's site at

www.epa.gov/airnow.]



Particles Purple

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is very unhealthy for everyone (code purple).

Primary Pollutant: Particles

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is very unhealthy for everyone.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

Everyone:

- You should significantly cut back on physical activities today.
- Coaches, you should reschedule your game when air quality is better.
- Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

If you are in a sensitive group, including people with heart or lung disease (such as asthma), older adults, and children:

- You should avoid all physical activities today and plan them for another day when air quality is better.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site [enter Web site].
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Section III – Ozone and Particle Combinations

Use this grid when both pollutants are at unhealthy levels (orange, red, or purple). Always refer to the message for the higher-level pollutant.

For example, if the forecast is ozone orange/ particles red, refer to the red message.

Ozone Orange/ Particles Orange

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is unhealthy for many people (code orange).

Primary Pollutant: Ozone and Particles

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is unhealthy for many people.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

If you are in a sensitive group, including active adults, people with heart or lung disease (such as asthma), older adults, and children:

- Try to cut back your strenuous activities or reschedule them when air quality is better.

- You might want to go for a walk instead of a jog.

- Coaches, it's a good idea to rotate your players, especially if any have asthma.

- Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

Additional Information:

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Ozone Red/ Particles Orange
Ozone Orange/Particles Red
Ozone Red/ Particles Red

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is unhealthy for everyone (code red).

Primary Pollutant: Ozone and Particles

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is unhealthy for everyone.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

Everyone:

You should plan your strenuous activities for another day when air quality is better. This is especially important for people with heart or lung disease.

You should avoid strenuous activities today.

Coaches, you should consider rescheduling your game when air quality is better.

Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

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Ozone Purple/ Particles Orange
Ozone Orange/ Particles Purple
Ozone Purple/Particles Red
Ozone Red/ Particles Purple
Ozone Purple/ Particles Purple

Key On-Air Message

The air quality forecast for tomorrow is very unhealthy for everyone (code purple).

Primary Pollutant: Ozone and Particles

Health Message/ What is the Significance?

Air quality is very unhealthy for everyone.

Supporting Message/ What Action Should People Take?

Everyone:

You should plan your physical activities for another day when air quality is better. This is especially important for people with heart or lung disease.

You should avoid physical activities today.

Coaches, you should reschedule your game when air quality is better.

Take precautions if you experience any unusual coughing or chest discomfort.

Additional Information:

For more real-time information on air quality, go to our Web site at [enter Web site].

[Other Web sites are to the State/local agency or EPA's site at

www.epa.gov/airnow.]